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Emily Q Settlement Team:
Super TBS Accountability, Communications, and Training (TACT) Task Group
Meeting Notes – December 1, 2010; 10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

In October 2008, two task groups were formed to create and monitor the development of an accountability structure and training and outreach strategy to implement the Court-approved TBS Nine-Point Plan. In June 2009, the California Department of Mental Health (CDMH) merged the Accountability Structure Implementation Strategy (ASIS) and Technical Assistance, Communications and Training (TACT) task groups to better manage resources due to the State's fiscal situation, loss of staff resources, and the recognition that both task groups were addressing integrated issues. The new task group is known as "Super TACT." – Sean Tracy, Assistant Deputy Director, Community Services Division, DMH.

Attendance: Melinda Bird (Disability Rights, CA by phone), Betsy Fitzgerald (LA County by phone), David Gray (Special Master consultant), Alicia Griffin (DMH), Julie Inderkum (DMH), Don Kingdon (CMHDA by phone), Troy Konarski (DMH), Steve Korosec (Special Master consultant), Rita McCabe (DMH), Vicki Mendoza (UCAF by phone), Janet McKinley (DMH), Kathleen Carter Nishimura (DMH), Jim Preis (Mental Health Advocacy Services, Inc.), Mike Reiter (APS), Cindy Robbins-Roth (Parent/Family Advocate by phone), Richard Saletta (Special Master), Saumitra SenGupta (APS), Tom Sodergren (Casa Pacifica), Todd Sosna (CiMH by phone), Sean Tracy (DMH), Melinda Vaughn (DOJ), Roxanne Vincent (DMH), Stacey Wofford (DOE), Barbara Zweig (DMH), and Kim Nguyen Pierce (LA County by phone).

Action Items

A. Welcome and Introductions

B. Small County Strategy Updates

Sean Tracy reported communicating with Jaye Vanderhurst, Small County Directors' Committee Chair, regarding issues that the small counties were facing with respect to compliance. Directors will be meeting next week to discuss methods for coming into compliance with the Nine-Point Plan. CiMH is currently developing a training for small counties which is scheduled to be completed by February or March. They have also convened conference calls with Small County Directors to discuss these issues. CMHDA reported that efforts to include TBS on the Small County Directors' agenda will continue to be on-going, even after jurisdiction ends.

C. TBS Equivalency and Certification

Special Master Richard Saletta reported that he has not yet officially certified any county due to issues with respect to data collection, which will be discussed at a later period. Since the last SuperTACT meeting, Santa Cruz County and Kern County have received equivalency determinations. With their equivalency, Santa Cruz is expected to request certification of reaching the 4% benchmark. Kern County did not meet the benchmark yet, but with several new contractors, it is anticipated that TBS will increase significantly in 2011. Other counties on track to meet the benchmark requirements with equivalency determination include: Monterey; Riverside; Butte; and San Diego.

D. TBS Training Updates

1. The San Diego County training is being designed to assist in more effective ways to provide TBS. Discussions will include how TBS providers engage family members and behavioral modification techniques. Tom Sodergren and Kimberly Valenzuela will conduct the training and Cindy Robbins-Roth will also present.
2. The Family & Youth Strategy partners are working on three trainings:
 - a) Family-specific
 - b) Youth-specific
 - c) Statewide Webinar

Sean Tracy and Kathleen Carter Nishimura reported that the first TBS Family and Youth Strategy partnership event will be a webinar to showcase the San Diego Family and Youth Roundtable model, and learn about other County and local models.

3. The Small County rural strategy is being supported (via the CMHDA Small County Directors Committee) by Napa County Mental Health Director Jaye Vanderhurst. Small counties are challenged by the provider capacity and resources.
4. DMH reported that Stanislaus County has expressed an interest in TBS training.

E. TBS Documentation Manual Update

1. Billing for TBS. Troy Konarski reported that there was some disagreement over whether or not counties can bill for up to 24 hours in a single day. Rita McCabe suggested that they change the language to read that "duration and frequency of TBS depends on the needs of the child," to address transportation and reunification costs that can vary significantly.
2. Billing for administrative costs. Troy Konarski reported that he will change the language from "writing discharge summaries cannot be billed" to "clerical work on discharge summaries".
3. The manual currently reads that TBS cannot be charged for discharge planning. Rita McCabe advised that there are two instances when this is not the case: 1) if the child is hospitalized, they can bill TBS as targeted case management for discharge planning; 2) if the child has been in juvenile hall, they can bill TBS once the child is adjudicated and waiting for placement. This information should be included in the updated 2011 TBS Documentation Manual with language similar to that used in the TBS Coordination of Care Manual.
4. Billing with respect to two-part sessions. There is a question as to whether or not there should be a separate note for each respective session. Special Master Richard Saletta suggested that this is a clinical judgment issue that is best addressed on an individual basis. Jim Preis suggested that this be addressed in an FAQ on the Web site as opposed to be included in the manual.
5. The CDMH TBS Documentation Manual updates are scheduled to be incorporated into the 2011 updates (June – September 2011). A summary document about these updates will be circulated with counties via CiMH to discuss on our next Level II conference call in February 2011 and at the February 2011 SuperTACT meeting.
6. CDMH will update the SMART pages with TBS information in February 2011.

F. Roundtable Discussion: TBS Family and Youth Strategy

1. Kathleen Carter Nishimura reported that the second monthly conference call was held on November 29, 2010. There were 47 call connections including TBS coaches, counties and providers. Of the Level II Counties, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Joaquin and Tulare Counties participated. Of the Level I Counties, Calaveras, Humboldt and Mendocino joined the discussion. Strategies and goals were discussed.
2. Vicki Mendoza reported that UACF is making TBS an agenda item and will distribute information throughout their parent/partner network (PPC). They intend to discuss what has and has not been working.

3. CAYEN discussed their current efforts. Issues that arose included:
- a) How to create a bridge for family members. Feedback included the success of behavior modification efforts particularly with respect to finding the most appropriate match between the consumer and the coach.
 - b) Some TBS coaches have been left out of the process in the schools.
 - c) Web page as the vehicle for transmitting TBS information to youth and families. Discussed making it easier to understand and more visually appealing.
 - d) How to increase parent participation.
 - e) Soliciting topics for future calls.

G. TBS Data

Gary Renslo, Manager III of Medi-Cal Customer Claims Unit (MedCCC), DMH, provided a report about the status of the available SDMC II approved Claims data as of December 1, 2010. More up-to-date Short-Doyle Phase II data will be made available later in December 2010, with a target goal prior to the December and January Court dates. DMH is working to provide the updated and approved claims file to APS by January 2011. DMH's new Data Warehouse and file sharing system is being designed to extract and report claims data and trends more effectively. Gary reported that APS is scheduled to receive the DMH claims data for the TBS data dashboards in January 2011.

H. Roundtable TACT

Sean Tracy reported that DMH will continue its efforts to increase TBS utilization by continuing the monthly SuperTACT meetings, perhaps in combination with the EQ Settlement Team members. Special Master, Richard Saletta shared that the TBS Nine-Point Plan has been a success in many ways, and has created a wider network of TBS and TBS equivalent program designs and services throughout the state.